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OKLAHOMA BUSINESSMAN FOUND GUILTY OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

WASHINGTON - A federal jury returned a guilty verdict yesterday against a Tulsa, Okla., businessman for receiving images of child pornography on his home computer, Acting Assistant Attorney General Matthew Friedrich of the Criminal Division and U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Oklahoma David E. O'Meilia announced today.

On Nov. 4, 2008, following a six-day jury trial in Tulsa, Terry Brian Dobbs, 50, was found guilty of receiving child pornography through the Internet. Testimony at trial established that the charge against Dobbs resulted from a federal investigation conducted in 2006, which uncovered evidence that Dobbs received child pornography at his home between Dec. 15, 2005, and April 9, 2006. Dobbs was charged in a second superseding indictment returned on July 11, 2008. According to trial testimony, at the time of his arrest Dobbs was operating a business in which he ran advertisements in local newspapers claiming that he could help people start their own businesses selling items on the Internet.

Evidence presented at trial by the government included child pornography images, including minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct that were discovered in the temporary Internet files folder of Dobbs' computer; search terms relating to child pornography from Dobbs' internet history records; records of Web sites visited by Dobbs; and reconstructed Web pages recovered from Dobbs' computer.

Following the verdict, Dobbs was ordered to be detained by the U.S. Marshals Service without bond. Dobbs' sentencing is scheduled for Feb. 9, 2009, before U.S. District Judge Gregory Frizzell. At sentencing, Dobbs faces a mandatory minimum sentence of five years and a maximum of 20 years in prison, and a lifetime term of supervised release. He also will face the possibility of a fine.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Susan Morgan of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Tulsa and Barak Cohen of the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS). CEOS's High-Tech Investigative Unit and the Tulsa Police Department provided forensic analysis of Dobbs' computer. The charges were the result of an investigation by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

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